

5. The Board discussed ways of organizing the participation of IT-SOC representatives at IEEE meetings such as TAB in a way that enables a sustained contribution to IEEE strategy and activities. The President informed that Tony Ephremides agreed to represent the Society in a committee which helps in IEEE's strategic planning.

6. The Board thanked Bixio Rimoldi for his service as President of the Society.

7. The Treasurer reported on the financial status of the Society. The current situation is stable. Anant Sahai also presented an update on the surplus intended for new initiatives and explained that a rush to spend this amount is not justified. The Treasurer recommended that the Society keeps the mandatory surplus with respect to Society conferences, so as to ensure that there are enough reserve assets to counter difficult times.

Steve McLaughlin asked how publications affect the revenue of the Society. Anant Sahai explained that at the moment this impact is difficult to estimate, because IEEE has changed its policies.

The Treasurer expects there to be significant funds available next year for additional Society activities.

8. The Web Editor, Nicholas Laneman, reported on the efforts of the Web Committee in writing a proposal to improve the Society's internet presence.

The Members of the Board were encouraged to read the committee's short proposal and the detailed version available on the Society's document server.

The Society now has several mailing lists for fast dissemination of information. The needs of the members of the Society were assessed via a survey. Nicholas Laneman explained the concept of content management system and how it could be used to implement some of the envisioned features. Detailed workflows were presented to several possible developers. Several cost estimates and related documents are available on the Society's document server.

David Neuho asked for more information on the maintenance costs. Nick Laneman explained that these costs should be considered jointly with the costs of hosting the website. Possibilities include distributing the load over several servers at different universities or hiring a service provider.

As a comparison, Giuseppe Caire described the costs of implementing the webpage for ISIT 2007.

Andrea Goldsmith raised the issues of ease of use, participa

9. The Board discussed a proposal by Gadiel Seroussi for the Society to provide a grant

Anant Sahai presented a motion for the approval of loans up to 10% of the budgeted receipts for ITWs and ISITs to be at the discretion of the Treasurer and the Conference Committee, after the conference and its budget has been approved. The motion was unanimously approved.